



KI, Schools, and Children

Why are schools being asked to store and possibly administer KI?

Schools play a vital role in county radiological preparedness plans. Each school within ten miles of a nuclear generating station, the emergency planning zone (EPZ), will have a supply of KI to allow for distribution to occur at the school. In the event that the school needs to be quickly evacuated, KI will be available to those children at one of the host schools listed in the PSE&G calendar (Salem/Cumberland county area), and via the EAS for the Ocean County area.

Must parents allow the school to administer potassium iodide (KI) to their children?

No. Participation in this program is voluntary, however the use of KI is encouraged by the scientific and emergency preparedness communities in the event of a release of radioactive iodides from a nuclear generating station. Please mark the appropriate area on the KI permission slip (see attached) which will alert school officials of your choice.

How will schools be notified that events warrant the administration of the KI to children?

In the event radioactive iodine is released into the environment, the NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services and/or the county department of health will make the recommendation to administer KI.

Who may administer KI to children?

Designated individuals within the schools may administer KI to children once they have been told to do so by a public health official in an emergency situation.

If my child's school is evacuated, where are they taken?

Unless otherwise indicated by the Emergency Alert System (EAS), your child/ren will be relocated to one of the host schools listed in the PSE&G calendar (Salem/Cumberland county area), and via the EAS for the Ocean County area. For a list of host schools, please see the back of this fact sheet. If asked to shelter-in-place, the schools will take the necessary protective actions. You will be advised through the EAS when/where it will be safe for you to pick-up your child.

For more information, please visit the NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services website at www.nj.state.us/health.

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WARNING:
People who are allergic to iodine should
NOT take KI tablets!

